

**Notice of Allowability**

Application No.

10/529,714

Examiner

Richard M. Lorence

Applicant(s)

MAZZONETTO ET AL.

Art Unit

3681

**-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--**

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to the amendment filed on April 9, 2007.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 5-7.
3. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
  - a) ☒ All    b) ☐ Some\*    c) ☐ None    of the:
    1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
    2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
    3. ☒ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

**THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS ( as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
  - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review ( PTO-948) attached
    - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
  - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

**Attachment(s)**

- |                                                                                                            |                                                                                        |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)                                           | 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application                      |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)                       | 6. <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),<br>Paper No./Mail Date _____. |
| 3. <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),<br>Paper No./Mail Date _____    | 7. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment                               |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit<br>of Biological Material | 8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance   |
|                                                                                                            | 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____.                                               |

### **REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE**

This action is in response to the amendment filed on April 9, 2007. The substitute specification and amended abstract have been entered. Claims 5-7 have been amended and claim 8 has been cancelled. Claims 5-7 are currently pending.

The replacement drawings received on April 9, 2007 are acceptable.

Applicant's arguments appearing on pages 8-9 of the response filed April 9, 2007 with respect to the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 112, 1<sup>st</sup> paragraph have been fully considered and are persuasive. The rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 112, 1<sup>st</sup> paragraph has been withdrawn.

Claims 5-7 are allowed.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

None of the prior art of record shows or suggests a device for the optimization of hydraulically controlled engagement of marine transmission clutches including the specified shuttle-type sequence valve and adjusting device arranged together and in combination with the remainder of the structure set forth in claims 5 and 6, and particularly wherein the shuttle-type sequence valve is between the spring element of the adjusting device and one of a supply line of the solenoid valves or the bistable valve, and the bistable valve is linked to a hydraulic control of the sequence valve.


Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

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Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Richard M. Lorence whose telephone number is (571) 272-7094. The examiner can normally be reached on Mondays through Fridays from 10:30AM to 7:00PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Charles A. Marmor can be reached on (571) 272-7095. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

  
Richard M. Lorence  
Primary Examiner  
Art Unit 3681

rml



PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of : Giampaolo MAZZONETTO and Paolo  
CATTAPAN  
Serial no. : 10/529,714  
Filed : with an effective filing date of September 26, 2003  
For : DEVICE FOR THE OPTIMIZATION OF  
HYDRAULICALLY CONTROLLED ENGAGEMENT  
OF CLUTCHES USED IN MARINE TRANSMISSIONS  
Group Art Unit : 3681  
Examiner : Richard M. LORENCE  
Docket : ZAHFRI P736US

The Commissioner for Patents  
U.S. Patent & Trademark Office  
P. O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450


**SUBMISSION OF PROPOSED DRAWING AMENDMENT(S)  
FOR APPROVAL BY EXAMINER (37 CFR 1.123)  
AND NEW REPLACEMENT SHEETS OF DRAWINGS**

Dear Sir:

Attached hereto please find new Replacement Sheets of drawings, for Figs1-5 of the  
above identified application, which enter various amendments to the drawings of this  
application. The Applicant respectfully requests approval of all of the requested drawing  
amendments.

In the event that there are any fee deficiencies or additional fees are payable, please  
charge the same or credit any overpayment to our Deposit Account (Account No. 04-0213).

Respectfully submitted,

  
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*Replacement  
Drawings  
Acceptable  
June 6/24/07*